

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE NEW ORLEANS CITY PARK IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of the New Orleans City Park Improvement Association (the "NOCPIA") was called to order Tuesday, March 26, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. by President Bill Hoffman. The meeting was held in the City Park Administration Building, located at 1 Palm Drive, New Orleans, Louisiana 70124.

PRESENT: Commissioners Brooks, Chase, Clarkson (represented by Susan Baxter), Crawford, Fierke, Giffin, Guidry (represented by Sherri Wilder), Hales, Hoffman, Johnson, Katz, Laborde, LeGrand, Lupo, Masinter, McKay, Palumbo, Pettus, Schrenk, Shreves, Slone, Sloss, Tregre and Vesich

ABSENT: Commissioners Bingler, Brown, DeBlieux, Farnet, Fernandez, Hess, LaFranca, McKeithen, Payton, Powell, and Romig

STAFF: Bob Becker, Rob DeViney, Kevin Cox, John Hopper, George Parker and Denise Joubert

GUESTS:

A quorum was present and voting throughout the meeting.

President Hoffman welcomed everyone and reported the Annual Meeting of the City Park Improvement Association was held this morning. Becker reviewed the status of City Park's Master Plan at the meeting.

Hoffman indicated, discussions are ongoing in regards to the John F. Kennedy site.

Hoffman thanked all Board Members who attended the Board Retreat and reported a Development Boot Camp will be held on April 4th from 11:30 to 12:45.

Chief Administrative Officer, George Parker, reported effective January 1, 2013 all employees and Commissioners are required to complete mandatory ethics training which is available online. When completed Commissioners should give a copy of the Certificate of Completion to Denise Joubert for the file. The Personal Financial Disclosure forms are due in Baton Rouge by May 15th.

The February minutes were approved.

In his Management Report, Chief Executive Officer Becker reported operating results for February were ahead of budget, mainly due to several major events revolving around the Super Bowl. Year-to-date we are still below budget due to costs associated with Hurricane Issac; we are expecting to be reimbursed 75% of our costs from FEMA.

Special Events Director, Julie LaCour, reported the Hogs for the Cause fundraiser held on March 22 and 23rd was a tremendous success. Some traffic problems were encountered as it was a busy weekend with the Sugar Bowl Track Meet occurring on the same days.

A concert was held in Pan American Stadium on March 17th. Several complaints were received in regards to the loudness of the music which we addressed with the promoter and the Criminal Sheriff's office.

A meeting was held with the State and FEMA about the status of our roller coaster claim. FEMA agreed that the damage to the coaster was storm related and not deferred maintenance. FEMA asked for further testing on the coaster's structure which we are in the process of ordering.

FEMA is in the process of completing the Environmental Assessment of the golf course project.

Grow Dat has requested additional acreage for their Urban Farm project. Management is reviewing the request.

Loyola University has decided not to pursue their proposal for a baseball facility in the Park.

Committee Report:

A&E – Commissioner Edmund Schrenk updated the Board on various projects in the Park. The old Tennis lot between Irby and Anseman will be paved and continue as a parking lot. DOTD changes are being made to the Bike Path on Marconi. The contractors for the miniature golf project have made significant progress over the last month. The course should be completed by the end of March while the building should be completed by April 24th. The Committee visited Christian Bros School to discuss the school's request to fence in the campus due to increase traffic from the Festival Grounds. The Committee is working with them on a plan acceptable to both parties.

Athletics – Commissioner Andrea LeGrand reported repairs from the event held by ESPN in Tad Gormley Stadium have been completed. The field at Pan American needs to be replaced and should be under warranty. The fields at the Festival Ground are rented three nights a week for soccer and kickball leagues. The 2013 football draw took place with 21 games scheduled for Tad Gormley and 44 games at Pan American stadium. Discussions are ongoing with the Chicago Fire in regards to their contract. Anyone interested in serving on the Athletic Services Committee contact Andrea LeGrand or Bill Hoffman.

Golf – No Report

Development – No Report

Finance – Commissioner Larry Katz reported concessions net margins increased over the last eight months. Since Morning Call opened, the revenue of the gift shop increased. Becker report the endowment has reached \$2.6 million; we started at \$43,000.

Special Events/CITO – No Report

Horticulture and Grounds – Commissioner Jane Brooks updated the Board on various projects. The Committee discussed landscaping plans for the Festival Grounds, Miniature Golf, and the new Botanical Garden entrance. The Committee also discussed the City Park hedge along Lelong Avenue with funds dedicated for maintenance from the Lelong family. Further discussions took place in regards to developing plans to screen the service area adjacent to I-610 corridor. The Committee is planning a board planting day in May at Miniature Golf.

NOMA – Paul Masinter reported Art in Bloom was successful.

Nominating – No Report

Legal – Paul Masinter reported the committee is reviewing on-going legal issues. The Executive Committee approved a new contract for Golf legal consultant. Commissioner Steve Pettus is working with the Committee on By-Laws revisions

Public Relations – Becker reported the Park submitted a 2nd round grant application request for the BP marketing fund.

Tennis – Commissioner Errol Laborde reported the second annual Grand Slam Tennis tournament was successful and thanked Commissioner Larry Katz for his donation.

Friends of City Park – Commissioner Mary Johnson reported Lark in the Park was a tremendous success. Johnson thanked the Board and City Park staff for their help and support. Johnson asked all board members to pass along any feedback received. Commissioner Will Tregre congratulated the Friends for a phenomenal event.

Dog Park – Commissioner Jackie Shreves reported the Dog Park is celebrating its third anniversary on March 27th and giving away 200 tickets to Zephyr's Bark in the Park game on April 14th at Zephyr Stadium. 101 Donations fundraiser is scheduled for August 24th in the Arbor Room.

New Business: Becker reported the Park has been searched numerous times for the missing teacher. Commissioner Tregre and Fierke suggested installing crosswalks on Henry Thomas and Palm Drive and on Marconi by soccer fields.

Additional public comment was then invited; there was no additional public comment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at 4:00 pm.

Denise Joubert
Recording Secretary

Jackie Shreves
Secretary